



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/689,352	10/20/2003	Norbert Fruehauf	2702	4202

7590 01/17/2007  
STRIKER, STRIKER & STENBY  
103 East Neck Road  
Huntington, NY 11743

EXAMINER
----------

KUMAR, SRILAKSHMI K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2629

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

01/17/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/689,352

Applicant(s)

FRUEHAUF, NORBERT

Examiner

Srilakshmi K. Kumar

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

The following office action is in response to the amendment filed on October 26, 2006. Claims 1-3 are pending.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 1-3** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inukai (U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0101395) in view of Bu (U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0101172).

With reference to **claim 1**, Inukai teaches a driving circuit for an image point of an image screen which has an organic light emitting diode (307) comprising; a capacitor (308); a feedback coupling (see Figure 8); a first thin film transistor (306) as a current driving transistor for the diode; a second transistor (305) which is connected by a current-conducting electrode with a gate of the first transistor (306) and by a second current conducting electrode with a data conductor (301) and by its gate electrode with a scanning signal conductor (302); a third thin film transistor (309); and a current measuring and voltage regulating circuit (312) providing a voltage signal which is dependent on a current measuring result and voltage comparison, so that the diode during driving of the gate of the third transistor due to its non-linear switching characteristic acts as a switch for a current deviation in the current measuring and voltage regulating circuit (see paragraphs 80-94).

While Inukai teaches the usage of a third thin film transistor, which taps the input of the first transistor, there fails to be any disclosure of taping a driving current being output from the first current driving transistor. Also, while Inukai teaches the usage of a current measuring and voltage regulating circuit, there fails to be any disclosure of the circuit providing an output voltage signal to the data conductor dependent on a current measuring result and voltage comparison.

Bu teaches a third thin film transistor (21), which taps the output of the first transistor (53) and supplies it to the current measuring and voltage regulating circuit (6) (see paragraph 0017); the measuring and voltage regulating circuit (6) provides an output voltage signal to the data conductor (4) dependent on a current measuring result and voltage comparison (see paragraph 118 and 120).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to allow the current measuring result to be feedback to the data conductor as taught by Bu to be used in a device similar to that which is taught by Inukai in order to thereby maintain the value of the reference current due to the feedback voltage in turn controlling the value of the driving current to produce an OLED display device that can achieve uniform light emission.

With reference to **claim 2**, Inukai teaches that the second and third transistors (305, 309) have gate electrodes, which are both, connected with the scanning signal conductor (302, 303).

With reference to **claim 3**, Inukai teaches that all of the above mentioned elements of the driving circuit are located at a same side of the light emitting diode, so that no contact must be guided through a semiconductor material of the diode (see paragraph 88).

*Response to Arguments*

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

*Conclusion*

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Srilakshmi K. Kumar whose telephone number is 571 272 7769. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am to 5:30 pm.

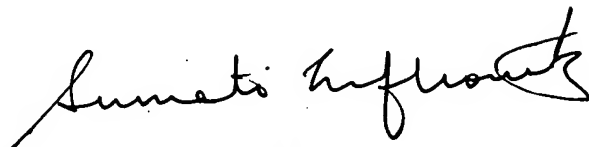
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on 571 272 3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2629

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Srilakshmi K. Kumar  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2629

SKK  
January 5, 2006



SUMATI LEFKOWITZ  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER